
U.S. Representative

John Spratt

South Carolina # 5th District

News Release

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Spratt Votes to Help Textiles

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) this week voted to boost funding for the Customs Service, giving the agency a wealth of resources needed to maintain strict enforcement of textile trade laws. Spratt said a stronger Customs Service “means better protection of American textile and apparel jobs.”

The bill Spratt supported passed the House on July 25. It provides a 17% increase for the Customs Service, primarily to improve its computer system to facilitate the processing of goods, including textiles and apparel, at international ports and airports. The bill appropriates \$2.7 billion for the Customs Service, \$395 million more (17%) than the current level and \$289 million more than President Bush requested.

Spratt said the added funds are a wise, long-term investment.

“If past experience is any guide, extra money for textile and apparel enforcement will more than pay for itself in additional tariffs, fees, penalties and other revenues for the government. These extra resources will go a long way toward stemming illegal textile imports and bringing relief to American textile workers.”

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